Attorney's Docket No.: 01997-227002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Todd H. Rider et al.
Serial No. : 09/169,196
Filed : October 9, 1998
Title : OPTOELECTRONIC SENSOR

Art Unit : 1641
Examiner : C. Chin

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed August 22, 2000, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 4-6, 12-14, and 18-22.

Replace the claims as follows.

1. (Amended) A device for detecting the presence of an antigen, comprising:

a fibroblast having chimeric antibodies which are expressed on the surface of the fibroblast and are specific for the antigen to be detected, wherein binding of the antigen to the antibodies results in an increase in calcium concentration in the cytosol of the fibroblast, the fibroblast further having an emitter molecule which, in response to the increased calcium concentration, emits a photon;

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a liquid medium in which the fibroblast is immersed, the liquid medium receiving the antigen to be detected; and

an optical detector arranged for receiving the photon emitted from the fibroblast.

2. (Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the optical detector is in direct contact with the liquid medium.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 10, 2001
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Jeanine Mecherkany
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